



Arizona Department of Public Safety

- For Immediate Release -

Saturday July 26, 2008

TOHONO O'ODHAM POLICE OFFICER INJURED IN AN EARLY MORNING COLLISION ON INTERSTATE 19

On Saturday, July 26, 2008, at 5:05AM officers from the Arizona Department of Public Safety responded to the report of a collision on northbound Interstate 19 at milepost 56.2 (KM90), near the Papago Road exit.

A police officer with the Tohono O'Odham Police Department was on duty, traveling northbound on Interstate 19 in a Tohono O'Odham police vehicle, when he was involved in a collision that sent the patrol car out of control into the median area. The patrol car caught fire. Passing motorists were able to remove the officer from the vehicle through the front windshield. The officer was transported to a local area hospital in critical condition with life threatening injuries.

DPS officers conducting the investigation found evidence of a possible second vehicle which may have been involved in the collision and left the scene. The only information available is that the second vehicle may have been a commercial vehicle.

The Department of Public Safety is asking for help in this investigation. We are asking that if there are any motorists who were in the area of northbound Interstate 19 at milepost 56.2, which would be near the Papago Road exit, and may have witnessed the collision, please call the following numbers and report any information they may have.

(520) 746-4500

(520) 746-4507

Press Contact: <qmehr@azdps.gov>

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Press Inquiries:

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